

## **D I R E C T O R Y**

# **Preparing A Master Plan For Your Community**

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- Table of Contents
- Welcome Letter  
(Forward from Handbook)
- A Brief History of Master Planning  
in New Hampshire

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- What is a Master Plan?
- The Basic Characteristics of a Master Plan
- Legal Significance of a Master Plan
- Roles & Responsibilities in Preparing a Master Plan
- The Process of Preparing a Master Plan
  - The Eight Steps of the Master Planning Process
  - The Master Planning Process
  - Outline of the Organizational Steps Involved in Preparing a Master Plan
- What Makes a Good Plan

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- **Mandatory Sections**

- Vision
- Land Use

- **Other Master Plan Sections**

- Transportation
- Community Facilities
- Economic Development
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- Utility and Public Service
- Cultural and Historical Resources
- Regional Concerns
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- **Supplemental Master Plan Sections**

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- Step A: Deciding to Plan and Commit Resources
- Step B: Preparing a Work Plan and Sharing It with Elected Officials and the Public
- Step C: Ensuring That Your Resources Are in Place
- Summary of Action Steps for Developing Your Work Plan

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- **Step 1: Community Visioning:**  
Develop Vision Statement, Goals & Objectives

- The Visioning Process
- Visioning Models
- Incorporating Vision Statements, Goals and Objectives into a Master Plan

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- **Step 2: Data Collection and Inventory –**  
Preparing the Community Assessment and  
Existing Land Use Map

- What is a Community Assessment
- Contents of a Community Assessment
- Population Data
- Housing Data
- Economic Data
- Natural Resources
- Natural Resources Inventory
- Historical & Cultural Resources
- Land Use

- **STEP-BY-STEP GUIDE HOW TO  
PREPARE EXISTING LAND USE MAP**

- **Step 3: Data Analysis:**  
Formulate Future Development Scenarios  
Based on Vision Statements, Community  
Assessment, and Land Use Maps

- Development Constraints Map
- Development Opportunities Map

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- **Step 4: Evaluating Future Development Scenarios**
- **Step 5: Selecting the Preferred Development Scheme (Future Land Use Map)/Preparing and Adopting the Plan**

- **STEP-BY-STEP GUIDE HOW TO PREPARE A FUTURE LAND USE MAP**
- Land Use Categories for Large Cities and Towns
- Land Use Categories for Small Cities and Towns
- Future Demand for Land
- Preparing the Plan
- Getting the Plan Adopted



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- **Step 6: Implementing the Plan:**

A Summary of Available Tools

- Zoning and Master Plan Consistency
- Regulatory Actions
- Non-Regulatory Actions
- Additional Strategies for Master Plan Implementation

- **Steps 7 & 8: Monitoring, Amending and Updating Your Plan**

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- What Is Planning?
- Why Do Communities Plan?
- Why Should Your Community Want To Prepare A Master Plan?
- How Much Will It Cost to Prepare a Master Plan?
- How Long Will It Take to Prepare a Master Plan?
- Is Hiring a Professional Planning Consultant Necessary?
- Some Helpful Hints in Preparing Your Plan
- When Should You Update an Existing Plan?
- Different Ways to Plan
- The Various Approaches to Planning
- The Different Types of Master Plans
- Which Master Plan Makes the Most Sense for Your Community?
- Other Related Community Plans
- Master Plan Examples

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### **SUPPLEMENTAL TOOLS, TECHNIQUES AND EXAMPLES**

- Build Out Analysis
- HOW TO CONDUCT A BUILD OUT ANALYSIS
- Strategies for Getting the Public Involved
- Community Surveys
- Tips for Writing Press Releases
- Printing and Publishing Your Master Plan
- Maps
- Visioning Models
- Innovative Land Use Controls

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### **SUPPLEMENTAL TOOLS, TECHNIQUES AND EXAMPLES**

- New Trends in Master Planning
- Growth Management
- SMART GROWTH AUDIT TOOL
- Compact Growth
- Urban Growth Boundaries
- Integrated Planning
- Neotraditional Development
- Traditional Neighborhood Development

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- Mapping Resources
- Other Useful Resources
- Internet Resources
- Regional Planning Commissions

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- How To Conduct a Community Visioning Process
- Comprehensive Smart Growth Audit Checklist
- Step-by-Step Guide How To Prepare an Existing Land Use Map
- Step-by-Step Guide for How to Prepare A Future Land Use Map
- How to Conduct a Build Out Analysis
- Master Plan Survey Examples
  - Weare
  - Allenstown
- Sample Municipal Facilities Questionnaire
- Sample Press Release
- Sample Web Page